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FE - Mr. Rusk
Through: FE - Mr. Merchant
CA - Mr. Clubb

January 25, 1951

Qualified Chinese in Hong Kong

CA has for action Hong Kong's telegram No. 1857 of January 13 pointing out that there are in Hong Kong a number of anti-Communist and anti-Chiang Chinese personages who can be a valuable asset in combatting communism in Asia. The Consulate General advocates moving these persons and their dependents, estimated at 250 persons, to various Southeast Asian countries for subsequent employment by interested U.S. Government agencies. As proposed, the U.S. would arrange entries into each country, would vouch for each person to the local government, and in some cases would provide travel funds and subsistence until time of employment.

CA is fully in accord that an effort should be made to deny these persons to the Communists, to "save" them as a humanitarian gesture, and to utilize their services wherever possible. As a first step, Hong Kong is being requested to supply further details regarding each candidate insofar as available within the Consulate General. As a second step - and as one which would offer a good chance of checking the Hong Kong list - Dr. Kan Chieh-hou will be requested in due course to supply for the information of the Department a list of the "Chinese liberal leaders" in whose security Acting President Li Tsung-jen professes to be interested.

There are in existence demands for the services of several qualified Chinese for U.S. Government programs. Mr. Bennett of FE/P states that USIS is in a position to utilize a number of those persons Hong Kong has in mind. FSA now has in hand a project for providing Chinese personnel to the British in Malaya. Mr. Krentz declares that the Ford Foundation has large sums of money available for purposes which can include the concerned individuals.

It would be particularly undesirable to undertake at this time any large-scale removal of qualified Chinese from Hong Kong for varying reasons: (1) In the event that there is to develop any real resistance movement on the mainland, the services of qualified Chinese now in refuge

in Hong Kong

SECRET

in Hong Kong might well be required, whereas their removal would take from such resistance movement the brain and talents that are sorely needed; (2) any mass movem nt outwards from Hong Kong at this time would introduce ew elements of instability into the local situation; d (3) there is at the present time no evident compel ing danger that requires their removal for safety's sa e and, likewise, no compelling need in the U.S. and areas under U.S. jurisdiction for more than a limited number o talented Chinese scholars and personages. The li ted number of special talents required for U.S. prog s might well be removed -- but even this only after FE/P an FSA have checked the many applications for positions o g from Chinese already in the U.S. [illegible] for subsequent [illegible] of interested U.S. Government agencies. As, [illegible], the U.S. would arrange entries into each [illegible], [illegible] visa for each person to the legal government, and in some cases would provide travel funds and [illegible] until time of employment.

[illegible] that an effort should be made [illegible] person to be "neutralize", to "save" them [illegible] western culture, and to utilize their services [illegible] available. As a first step, Hong Kong is being [illegible] regarding each [illegible] as available within the Consulate [illegible]. As a second step - and as one which would offer [illegible] of checking the Hong Kong list - Dr. [illegible] will be requested in due course to supply for [illegible] of the Department a list of the "Chinese [illegible] leaders" in Hong security Acting President Li [illegible] be interested.

[illegible] are in [illegible] demands for the services of [illegible] Chinese for U.S. Government programs. Mr. Bennett of FE/P states that USIS is in a position to [illegible] a number of those persons Hong Kong has in mind. [illegible] has in mind a project for providing Chinese [illegible] in Malaya. Mr. Krentz [illegible] has large sums of money available [illegible] include the concerned individuals.

CC: S/P - Mr. Krentz
FSA - Mr. Lacy
FE/P - Mr. Bennett

It would be particularly undesirable to undertake at this time any large-scale removal of qualified Chinese from Hong Kong for varying reasons: (1) in the event that there is to develop any real resistance movement on the mainland, the services of qualified Chinese now in refuge in Hong Kong

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